

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-16, 19-24, 26-31 and 33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 11-12, 25, 29 and 32 are amended and claims 17, 18, 25, 32 and 34 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth below. In particular, the amendments amend the claims such that allowable subject matter is provided in each of the independent claims. Other minor amendments are made for clarity and are unrelated to reasons of patentability. Thus, no further search and/or consideration is necessary by the Examiner. Entry is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claims 6-12, 16 and 29-31 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, independent claim 1 is amended to include allowable features from claim 6. Furthermore, claim 12, which is indicated as containing allowable subject matter, is rewritten in independent form to include features from previous claim 1. Furthermore, claim 29, which is indicated as containing allowable subject matter, is rewritten in independent form to include features from previous claim 1. Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16, 19-24, 26-31 and

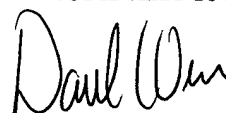
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33 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David C. Oren**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,  
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